

Army Policy for Field Feeding

The Army family of rations consists of individual rations, group rations, special feeding rations, a meal supplement, and meal enhancements. The approved feeding standard for the Army Field Feeding System (AFFS) is three quality meals per day. This standard is achieved by using a combination of individual rations and unitized group rations (UGRs). The normal daily ration mix for the AFFS is UGR/individual ration/UGR, mission enemy terrain troops-time and civilian (METT-TC) dependent. Force structure (food service personnel) and equipment is sufficient to distribute, prepare and serve meals to meet this standard.

- The UGR-A replaces the multi-line item “A” ration for all field feeding scenarios. Use of the UGR-A is mandatory when a commander chooses the “A” ration option. The UGR-heat and serve (H&S) is the other group ration commanders may choose. METT-TC does permit the use of the UGR-A.
- The UGR must be supplemented with milk (fresh or ultra high temperature [UHT]), which is a mandatory item required to comply with the Surgeon General’s nutrition requirement. All rations may be enhanced with optional items such as fresh fruit, salad, and bread to improve nutrition, variety and increase morale. Only authorized enhancements will be used. The authorized enhancements are contained in DA Pam 30-22 and ATTP 4-41.
- The Reserve Component (RC) will use the UGR family of rations during annual training (AT) in the field conducted at an Active Army installation; however, use during inactive duty training (IDT) is optional. Additionally, RC may elect a multiline “A” ration option when performing annual training at an Active Army installation and not in a field status. This option may be exercised by using the local command approved prime vendor contractor or commercial source to supply the subsistence items.
- The Surgeon General’s current policy allows the meal, ready to eat (MRE), to be consumed as the sole source of subsistence for up to 21 days. When available, bread, fruit, as enhancements, and milk as a supplement to the MRE are recommended. Supplementation and enhancement of the MRE is required if the MRE is the only meal used to support Soldier feeding in excess of 21 days.

Learn more about the Army Policy for Field Feeding in AR 30-22, Section 4-2.